

**Amendments to the Claims:**

1. (currently amended) An isolated and purified poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP) homolog comprising human PARP2 (SEQ ID NO: 2) or a functional equivalent thereof which is at least 85% homologous thereto, exhibits poly(ADP-ribose)-synthesizing activity, and has an amino acid sequence which
  - a) has a functional  $\text{NAD}^+$  binding domain comprising the sequence motif  
 $\text{PX}_n(\text{S/T})\text{GX}_3\text{GKGIYFA}$  (SEQ ID NO:11)  
in which n is an integral value from 1 to 5, and the X radicals are, independently of one another, any amino acid;
  - and
  - b) lacks a zinc finger sequence motif of the ~~general~~ formula  
 $\text{CX}_2\text{CX}_m\text{HX}_2\text{C}$  (SEQ ID NO:30)  
in which m is an integral value of 28 or 30, and the X radicals are, independently of one another, any amino acid.
  
2. (currently amended) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 1, wherein the functional  $\text{NAD}^+$  binding domain comprises ~~one of~~ the following ~~general~~ sequence motifs:  
 $(\text{S/T})\text{XGLR}(\text{I/V})\text{XPX}_n(\text{S/T})\text{GX}_3\text{GKGIYFA}$  (SEQ ID NO:12) ~~or~~  
 ~~$\text{LLWHG}(\text{S/T})\text{X}_7\text{IL}(\text{S/T})\text{XGLR}(\text{I/V})\text{XPX}_n(\text{S/T})\text{GX}_3\text{GKGIYFAX}_3\text{SKSAXY}$  (SEQ ID NO:13)~~  
in which n is an integral value from 1 to 5, and the X radicals are, independently of one another, any amino acid.
  
3. (currently amended) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 1, further comprising ~~at least another one of~~ the following part-sequence motifs:  
 $\text{LX}_9\text{NX}_2\text{YX}_2\text{QLLX}(\text{D/E})\text{X}_{10/11}\text{WGRVG}$  (SEQ ID NO: 15);  
 ~~$\text{AX}_3\text{FXKX}_4\text{KTXNXWX}_5\text{FX}_3\text{PXK}$  (SEQ ID NO:16);~~

~~QXL(I/L)X<sub>2</sub>IX<sub>9</sub>MX<sub>10</sub>PLGKLX<sub>3</sub>QIX<sub>6</sub>L (SEQ ID NO:17);~~

~~FYTXIPHXFGX<sub>3</sub>PP (SEQ ID NO:18); and~~

~~KX<sub>3</sub>LX<sub>2</sub>LXDIEXAX<sub>2</sub>L (SEQ ID NO:19);~~

in which the X radicals are, independently of one another, any amino acid.

4-32. (canceled)

33. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 1, wherein the functional NAD<sup>+</sup> binding domain comprises the following sequence motif:

LLWHG(S/T)X<sub>7</sub>IL(S/T)XGLR(I/V)XPX<sub>n</sub>(S/T)GX<sub>3</sub>GKGIYFAX<sub>3</sub>SKSAXY (SEQ ID NO:13)

in which n is an integral value from 1 to 5, and

the X radicals are, independently of one another, any amino acid.

34. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 1 further comprising part-sequence motif

AX<sub>3</sub>FXKX<sub>4</sub>KTXNXWX<sub>5</sub>FX<sub>3</sub>PXK (SEQ ID NO:16)

in which the X radicals are, independently of one another, any amino acid.

35. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 1 further comprising part-sequence motif

XL(I/L)X<sub>2</sub>IX<sub>9</sub>MX<sub>10</sub>PLGKLX<sub>3</sub>QIX<sub>6</sub>L (SEQ ID NO:17)

in which the X radicals are, independently of one another, any amino acid.

36. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 1 further comprising part-sequence motif

FYTXIPHXFGX<sub>3</sub>PP (SEQ ID NO:18)

in which the X radicals are, independently of one another, any amino acid.

37. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 1 further comprising part-sequence motif

KX<sub>3</sub>LX<sub>2</sub>LXDIEXAX<sub>2</sub>L (SEQ ID NO:19)

in which the X radicals are, independently of one another, any amino acid.

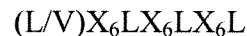
38. (new) An isolated poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP) homolog comprising human PARP2 (SEQ ID NO: 2) or a functional equivalent thereof which is at least 85% homologous thereto, exhibits poly(ADP-ribose)-synthesizing activity, and has an amino acid sequence which

- a) has a functional  $\text{NAD}^+$  binding domain comprising the sequence motif  $\text{PX}_n(\text{S/T})\text{GX}_3\text{GKGIYFA}$  (SEQ ID NO:11) in which n is an integral value from 1 to 5, and the X radicals are, independently of one another, any amino acid;

and

- b) lacks a zinc finger sequence motif of the formula  $\text{CX}_2\text{CX}_m\text{HX}_2\text{C}$  (SEQ ID NO:30) in which m is an integral value of 28 or 30, and the X radicals are, independently of one another, any amino acid

further comprising a leucine zipper-like sequence motif:



wherein X radicals are, independently of one another, any amino acid.

39. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 38 further comprising at least one of the following part-sequence motifs:

$\text{LX}_9\text{NX}_2\text{YX}_2\text{QLLX}(\text{D/E})\text{X}_{10/11}\text{WGRVG}$  (SEQ ID NO: 15),

$\text{AX}_3\text{FXKX}_4\text{KTXNXWX}_5\text{FX}_3\text{PXX}$  (SEQ ID NO:16),

$\text{QXL}(\text{I/L})\text{X}_2\text{IX}_9\text{MX}_{10}\text{PLGKLX}_3\text{QIX}_6\text{L}$  (SEQ ID NO:17),

$\text{FYTXIPHFXGX}_3\text{PP}$  (SEQ ID NO:18), and

$\text{KX}_3\text{LX}_2\text{LXDIEXAX}_2\text{L}$  (SEQ ID NO:19)

in which the X radicals are, independently of one another, any amino acid.

40. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 38 further comprising part-sequence motifs:

LX<sub>9</sub>NX<sub>2</sub>YX<sub>2</sub>QLLX(D/E)X<sub>10/11</sub>WGRVG (SEQ ID NO: 15)  
AX<sub>3</sub>FXXKX<sub>4</sub>KTXNXWX<sub>5</sub>FX<sub>3</sub>PXK (SEQ ID NO:16),  
QXL(I/L)X<sub>2</sub>IX<sub>9</sub>MX<sub>10</sub>PLGKLX<sub>3</sub>QIX<sub>6</sub>L (SEQ ID NO:17),  
FYTXIPHXXFGX<sub>3</sub>PP (SEQ ID NO:18), and  
KX<sub>3</sub>LX<sub>2</sub>LXDIEXAX<sub>2</sub>L (SEQ ID NO:19)

in which the X radicals are, independently of one another, any amino acid.

41. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 38 further comprising part-sequence motifs:

LX<sub>9</sub>NX<sub>2</sub>YX<sub>2</sub>QLLX(D/E)X<sub>10/11</sub>WGRVG (SEQ ID NO: 15)  
AX<sub>3</sub>FXXKX<sub>4</sub>KTXNXWX<sub>5</sub>FX<sub>3</sub>PXK (SEQ ID NO:16),  
QXL(I/L)X<sub>2</sub>IX<sub>9</sub>MX<sub>10</sub>PLGKLX<sub>3</sub>QIX<sub>6</sub>L (SEQ ID NO:17),  
FYTXIPHXXFGX<sub>3</sub>PP (SEQ ID NO:18), and  
KX<sub>3</sub>LX<sub>2</sub>LXDIEXAX<sub>2</sub>L (SEQ ID NO:19)

in which the X radicals are, independently of one another, any amino acid, wherein

LX<sub>9</sub>NX<sub>2</sub>YX<sub>2</sub>QLLX(D/E)X<sub>10/11</sub>WGRVG

is closest to the N terminus.

42. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 1 further comprising part-sequence motifs:

LX<sub>9</sub>NX<sub>2</sub>YX<sub>2</sub>QLLX(D/E)X<sub>10/11</sub>WGRVG (SEQ ID NO: 15)  
AX<sub>3</sub>FXXKX<sub>4</sub>KTXNXWX<sub>5</sub>FX<sub>3</sub>PXK (SEQ ID NO:16),  
QXL(I/L)X<sub>2</sub>IX<sub>9</sub>MX<sub>10</sub>PLGKLX<sub>3</sub>QIX<sub>6</sub>L (SEQ ID NO:17),  
FYTXIPHXXFGX<sub>3</sub>PP (SEQ ID NO:18), and  
KX<sub>3</sub>LX<sub>2</sub>LXDIEXAX<sub>2</sub>L (SEQ ID NO:19)

in which the X radicals are, independently of one another, any amino acid.

43. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 1 further comprising part-sequence motifs:

LX<sub>9</sub>NX<sub>2</sub>YX<sub>2</sub>QLLX(D/E)X<sub>10/11</sub>WGRVG (SEQ ID NO: 15)

AX<sub>3</sub>FXX<sub>4</sub>KTXNXWX<sub>5</sub>FX<sub>3</sub>PXK (SEQ ID NO:16),

QXL(I/L)X<sub>2</sub>IX<sub>9</sub>MX<sub>10</sub>PLGKLX<sub>3</sub>QIX<sub>6</sub>L (SEQ ID NO:17),

FYTXIPHXXGX<sub>3</sub>PP (SEQ ID NO:18), and

KX<sub>3</sub>LX<sub>2</sub>LXDIEXAX<sub>2</sub>L (SEQ ID NO:19)

in which the X radicals are, independently of one another, any amino acid, wherein

LX<sub>9</sub>NX<sub>2</sub>YX<sub>2</sub>QLLX(D/E)X<sub>10/11</sub>WGRVG

is closest to the N terminus.

44. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 1 further comprising at least one of the following:

GX<sub>3</sub>LXVALG,

GX<sub>2</sub>SX<sub>4</sub>GX<sub>3</sub>PX<sub>a</sub>LXGX<sub>2</sub>V, and

E(Y/F)X<sub>2</sub>YXYX<sub>3</sub>QXYLL

in which a is 7 to 9 and

X is any amino acid.

45. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 1 further comprising

GX<sub>3</sub>LXEVALG,

GX<sub>2</sub>SX<sub>4</sub>GX<sub>3</sub>PX<sub>a</sub>LXGX<sub>2</sub>V, and

E(Y/F)X<sub>2</sub>YX<sub>3</sub>QX<sub>4</sub>YLL

in which a is 7 to 9 and

X is any amino acid.

46. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 1 further comprising

GX<sub>3</sub>LXEVALG,  
GX<sub>2</sub>SX<sub>4</sub>GX<sub>3</sub>PX<sub>a</sub>LXGX<sub>2</sub>V, and  
E(Y/F)X<sub>2</sub>YX<sub>3</sub>QX<sub>4</sub>YLL

in which a is 7 to 9 and

X is any amino acid, wherein

E(Y/F)X<sub>2</sub>YX<sub>3</sub>QX<sub>4</sub>YLL

is closest to the C terminus.

47. (new) An isolated poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP) homolog comprising human PARP2 (SEQ ID NO: 2) or a functional equivalent thereof which is at least 85% homologous thereto, exhibits poly(ADP-ribose)-synthesizing activity, and has an amino acid sequence which

- a) has a functional NAD<sup>+</sup> binding domain comprising the sequence motif  
PX<sub>n</sub>(S/T)GX<sub>3</sub>GKGIYFA (SEQ ID NO:11)  
in which n is an integral value from 1 to 5, and the X radicals are, independently of one another, any amino acid;

and

- b) lacks a zinc finger sequence.

48. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 47 wherein said PARP lacks a zinc finger sequence motif of the formula

CX<sub>2</sub>CX<sub>m</sub>HX<sub>2</sub>C (SEQ ID NO:30)

in which m is an integral value of 28 or 30, and

the X radicals are, independently of one another, any amino acid.

49. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 47 wherein the functional NAD<sup>+</sup> binding domain comprises the following sequence motif:

(S/T)XGLR(I/V)XPX<sub>n</sub>(S/T)GX<sub>3</sub>GKGIYFA (SEQ ID NO:12)

in which n is an integral value from 1 to 5, and  
the X radicals are, independently of one another, any amino acid.

50. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 47 wherein the functional NAD<sup>+</sup> binding domain comprises the following sequence motif:

LLWHG(S/T)X<sub>7</sub>IL(S/T)XGLR(I/V)XPX<sub>n</sub>(S/T)GX<sub>3</sub>GKGIYFAX<sub>3</sub>SKSAXY (SEQ ID NO:13)

in which n is an integral value from 1 to 5, and  
the X radicals are, independently of one another, any amino acid.

51. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 47 further comprising a leucine zipper-like sequence:

(L/V)X<sub>6</sub>LX<sub>6</sub>LX<sub>6</sub>L

wherein X radicals are, independently of one another, any amino acid.

52. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 51 further comprising at least one of the following part-sequence motifs:

LX<sub>9</sub>NX<sub>2</sub>YX<sub>2</sub>QLLX(D/E)X<sub>10/11</sub>WGRVG (SEQ ID NO: 15),

AX<sub>3</sub>FXXKX<sub>4</sub>KTXNXWX<sub>5</sub>FX<sub>3</sub>PXK (SEQ ID NO:16),

QXL(I/L)X<sub>2</sub>IX<sub>9</sub>MX<sub>10</sub>PLGKLX<sub>3</sub>QIX<sub>6</sub>L (SEQ ID NO:17),

FYTXIPHXFGX<sub>3</sub>PP (SEQ ID NO:18), and

KX<sub>3</sub>LX<sub>2</sub>LXDIEXAX<sub>2</sub>L (SEQ ID NO:19)

in which the X radicals are, independently of one another, any amino acid.

53. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 51 further comprising:

LX<sub>9</sub>NX<sub>2</sub>YX<sub>2</sub>QLLX(D/E)X<sub>10/11</sub>WGRVG (SEQ ID NO: 15),

AX<sub>3</sub>FXXKX<sub>4</sub>KTXNXWX<sub>5</sub>FX<sub>3</sub>PXK (SEQ ID NO:16),

QXL(I/L)X<sub>2</sub>IX<sub>9</sub>MX<sub>10</sub>PLGKLX<sub>3</sub>QIX<sub>6</sub>L (SEQ ID NO:17),

FYTXIPHXFGX<sub>3</sub>PP (SEQ ID NO:18), and

KX<sub>3</sub>LX<sub>2</sub>LXDIEXAX<sub>2</sub>L (SEQ ID NO:19)

in which the X radicals are, independently of one another, any amino acid.

54. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 51 further comprising:

LX<sub>9</sub>NX<sub>2</sub>YX<sub>2</sub>QLLX(D/E)X<sub>10/11</sub>WGRVG (SEQ ID NO: 15),

AX<sub>3</sub>FXKX<sub>4</sub>KTXNXWX<sub>5</sub>FX<sub>3</sub>PXK (SEQ ID NO:16),

QXL(I/L)X<sub>2</sub>IX<sub>9</sub>MX<sub>10</sub>PLGKLX<sub>3</sub>QIX<sub>6</sub>L (SEQ ID NO:17),

FYTXIPHXFGX<sub>3</sub>PP (SEQ ID NO:18), and

KX<sub>3</sub>LX<sub>2</sub>LXDIEXAX<sub>2</sub>L (SEQ ID NO:19)

in which the X radicals are, independently of one another, any amino acid, wherein

LX<sub>9</sub>NX<sub>2</sub>YX<sub>2</sub>QLLX(D/E)X<sub>10/11</sub>WGRVG

is closest to the N terminus.

55. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 47 further comprising at least one of the following:

GX<sub>3</sub>LXVALG,

GX<sub>2</sub>SX<sub>4</sub>GX<sub>3</sub>PX<sub>a</sub>LXGX<sub>2</sub>V, and

E(Y/F)X<sub>2</sub>YX<sub>3</sub>QX<sub>4</sub>YLL

in which a is 7 to 9 and

X is any amino acid.

56. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 47 further comprising

GX<sub>3</sub>LXEVALG,

GX<sub>2</sub>SX<sub>4</sub>GX<sub>3</sub>PX<sub>a</sub>LXGX<sub>2</sub>V, and

E(Y/F)X<sub>2</sub>YX<sub>3</sub>QX<sub>4</sub>YLL

in which a is 7 to 9 and

X is any amino acid.



57. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 47 further comprising

GX<sub>3</sub>LXEVALG,  
GX<sub>2</sub>SX<sub>4</sub>GX<sub>3</sub>PX<sub>a</sub>LXGX<sub>2</sub>V, and  
E(Y/F)X<sub>2</sub>YX<sub>3</sub>QX<sub>4</sub>YLL

in which a is 7 to 9 and

X is any amino acid, wherein

E(Y/F)X<sub>2</sub>YX<sub>3</sub>QX<sub>4</sub>YLL

is closest to the C terminus.

58. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 51 further comprising at least one of the following:

GX<sub>3</sub>LXVALG,  
GX<sub>2</sub>SX<sub>4</sub>GX<sub>3</sub>PX<sub>a</sub>LXGX<sub>2</sub>V, and  
E(Y/F)X<sub>2</sub>YX<sub>3</sub>QX<sub>4</sub>YLL

in which a is 7 to 9 and

X is any amino acid.

59. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 51 further comprising

GX<sub>3</sub>LXEVALG,  
GX<sub>2</sub>SX<sub>4</sub>GX<sub>3</sub>PX<sub>a</sub>LXGX<sub>2</sub>V, and  
E(Y/F)X<sub>2</sub>YX<sub>3</sub>QX<sub>4</sub>YLL

in which a is 7 to 9 and

X is any amino acid.

60. (new) The PARP homolog as claimed in claim 51 further comprising

GX<sub>3</sub>LXEVALG,  
GX<sub>2</sub>SX<sub>4</sub>GX<sub>3</sub>PX<sub>a</sub>LXGX<sub>2</sub>V, and

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Docket No.: 49100

$E(Y/F)X_2YX_3QX_4YLL$

in which a is 7 to 9 and

X is any amino acid, wherein

$E(Y/F)X_2YX_3QX_4YLL$

is closest to the C terminus.